

Jelter Meers

N/A

MuckRock News, DEPT MR 81395
411A Highland Ave
Somerville, MA, 02144

11/08/2019

CBP-2020-002234

Dear Jelter Meers,

After careful review of your FOIA request, CBP-2020-002234, we have determined that your request is too broad in scope or did not specifically identify the records which you are seeking. *FOIA is not a search mechanism.* Records must be described in reasonably sufficient detail to enable government employees who are familiar with the subject area to locate records without placing an unreasonable burden upon the agency. For this reason, §5.3(b) of the DHS regulations, 6 C.F.R. Part 5, require that you describe the records you are seeking with as much information as possible to ensure that our search can locate them with a reasonable amount of effort.

Whenever possible, a request should include specific information about each record sought, such as:

Request for or description of the location that would have created the record:

- Specific port locations

The FOIA does not require an agency to create new records, answer questions posed by requesters, or attempt to interpret a request that does not identify specific records.

This is not a denial of your request for records. Please resubmit your FOIA request, along with a more detailed description of the records being sought, by logging into your existing FOIAOnline account or creating an account at <https://foiaonline.gov>.

Sincerely,

U.S. Customs and Border Protection